

In th Claims:

Applicants provisionally elect the species of invention shown in Fig. 12. Also please amend claims 1 to 4 and 6 to 16, which were filed with the original application papers and in the two preliminary amendments as follows:

1(currently amended). A fuel supply apparatus for supplying fuel to an internal combustion engine, said fuel supply apparatus comprising
at least one fuel valve (16) for introducing the fuel into the internal combustion engine;
a fuel tank (2);
a fuel line (10);
a first fuel pump (6) for supplying the fuel from the fuel tank (2) to the fuel line (10);
a second fuel pump (12) for supplying the fuel from the fuel line (10) via a pressurized line (14,42,44) to said at least one fuel valve (16) so that the fuel is introduced into the internal combustion engine at least indirectly;
a fuel return line (22) connecting the fuel line (10) to the fuel tank (2) for fuel return;
a pressure regulator valve (26) arranged in the fuel return line (22);
a shut off valve (30) arranged in the fuel return line {10} {22} so as to be hydraulically in series with the pressure regulator valve (26); and

a fuel scavenger line (60) for conducting the fuel back to the fuel tank (2) at least partially through the second fuel pump (12) and through a hydraulic resistance means (61, 62, 66, 70, 72, 76, 84).

2(original). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 1, further comprising means (20, 65) for controlling the shut off valve (30) according to a temperature.

3(previously amended). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the second fuel pump (12) has a pump housing (12g) and the fuel scavenger line (60) extends through said pump housing (12g).

4(currently amended). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the hydraulic resistance means comprises a valve (61, 62, 66, 72) that opens depending on a pressure.

Claim 5 (previously canceled).

6(original). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the fuel scavenger line (60) opens into the fuel return line (22) hydraulically between the shut off valve (30) and the pressure regulator valve (26).

7(original). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 1, further comprising an overpressure valve (7) connected in parallel hydraulically to the pressure

regulator valve (26).

8(previousy amended). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 1, further comprising a circulator line (52,52') connecting the pressurized line (14, 42, 44) to the fuel line (10) via a control valve (50,50') and wherein the scavenger line (60) branches from the circulator line (52,52').

9(original). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein the circulator line (52,52') is connected to the fuel line (10) by means of a hydraulic resistance element (53,74,80).

10(original). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 8, wherein the circulator line (52,52') is connected to the fuel line (10) by means of a check valve (53,80).

11(original). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 10, further comprising a throttle (74) connected in parallel hydraulically to the check valve.

12(previousy amended). The fuel supply apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein the second fuel pump (12) has a low pressure side (12n) and the fuel scavenger line (60) branches from the pump housing (12g) at a highest position thereof on said low pressure side (12n) of the second fuel pump.